



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The National Endowment for the Arts Awards \$698,000 for the Arts in North Dakota**

*Bismarck, ND* — Through its grant-making to thousands of nonprofits each year, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) promotes opportunities for people in communities across America to experience the arts and exercise their creativity.

In the second major grant announcement of fiscal year 2015, the NEA awarded \$698,000 through a state partnership agreement with the North Dakota Council on the Arts for programs that benefit state residents.

The state partnership agreements allow the NEA to extend its reach to every community in America; translating national leadership into local, state and regional benefit. The NEA will make 1,023 awards totaling \$74.3 million nationwide in this funding round.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, “The NEA is committed to advancing learning, fueling creativity, and celebrating the arts in cities and towns across the United States including in North Dakota. Funding these new projects represents a significant investment in local communities and the creative vitality of North Dakota.”

The NEA funds cover a number of grant programs within the state of North Dakota, including programs designed for education, for folk and traditional arts, to offer support for arts organizations, to bring artists to rural and urban communities, for professional development of artists within the state, and for special projects.

Upon receiving notice of the NEA funding, Beth Gigante Klingenstein, the Executive Director of the North Dakota Council on the Arts, spoke of the agency’s gratitude. “The arts in North Dakota are funded through numerous sources – community funds, private donations, local businesses, state funding, and funding from the NEA. All of these sources of funding are crucial to the success of the arts in our state, and we greatly appreciate the support received from the NEA.”

To join the Twitter conversation about this announcement, please use **#NEASpring2015**. For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to <http://arts.gov>.

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*The North Dakota Council on the Arts is the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout North Dakota, and is funded by the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.*